

February 10, 2015 Worship and Music Ministry Team Minutes

Attendees: Linda Hash, Nancy Boettcher, Milly Rugland, Tom Maves (new member), Lori Maves, Pastor Jeff.
Excused: Sue Swanson, Nathan Birkholz.

NO council action/budget/ task force action required.

Both Sites:

January minutes approved

Team regretfully accepted Rhonda Rossing's reservation and gratefully welcomed Tom Maves to the team.

Finances:

All January expenses in order.

There is about \$2000 in a memorial fund for Joyce Hagen earmarked for guest musicians. This can be used for situations when it would not be appropriate to use the Roloff Fund or the Recital Series fund.

Old Business

Make an Impact auction: W and M has donated a pew and parking spot for Christmas eve at both sites.

Narrative Lectionary: It was felt that at least two lessons – to include a Gospel lesson (always) and OT or NT lesson - and possibly a psalm should be used as this is what people are used to and comfortable with. Some of the lectionary includes two lessons but for other Sundays, the pastors would need to choose an appropriate second lesson and psalm. They would just preach on the text from the Narrative Lectionary. Linda proposed the launch of the Narrative Lectionary would be a good time to print the lessons on a bulletin insert.

Lights in DS Nave: Lights in the side aisles have been replaced with LEDs and those in the pendants in the main part of the nave will be replaced soon. Paid for with a credit on contract with Pfefferle. Linda will check on the status of the lights at the NS.

The Believers concert: April 9. Linda will take care of housing, Nancy will handle the meal.

Linda has put announcement in March newsletter.

Nurseries: Nursery oversight was moved from Learning to W and M in 2012, but W and M has never had a budget line for the nurseries. Staffing of the nursery is now handled by Brenda. Team would still like to get a group together to discuss improvements to nursery physical plant, increased staffing (possibly high school students) and improved signage. Someone with young children and an interest to head up such a group would be ideal. Linda will run this idea by Sara Laumer.

Sign in the DS parking lot: The team is grateful Ash Wednesday and the Lenten services have been added to the sign.

New Business:

Easter plants: The team discussed offering the option of applying donations in honor of/in memory of loved ones toward the purchase of chicks. This would work well for those who don't want a plant and might cut down on the number of plants we have to deal with at Easter. Linda will look into ELCA Good Gifts and get an order form in the March newsletter.

Good Friday: New this year will be a drama done by the youth based on Ray Boltz's song "Watch the Lamb." Linda is working with Heidi to recruit youth to participate.

How to increase worship attendance:

The second half of the meeting was spent discussing numbers 43-47 from the list by Robert Crossman from the Lewis Center for Church Leadership. Milly took the notes included here.

The following ideas were put forth for consideration.

Item 43- Visitor Friendly Bulletins and Screens: To make worship screens more friendly at the NS consider providing music scores for the liturgy. This might be done by adding "one note" scores on the screen or providing paper booklets. To make liturgy more friendly at DS consider reducing the number of times the liturgy changes during the year. Greeters are foremost in welcoming newcomers. We can improve this by greeting visitors at the door, asking questions about their needs (nursery, etc.), offering to show them around. DS bulletins are fine. Directional signage could be improved.

Item 44 - Sermons that Don't Assume Familiarity with the Bible: Clergy is aware, and prepares with this in mind. Current generations appear to look less for Biblical knowledge than for messages which lift us up to deal with life's challenges; God's grace and presence that brings life changing peace, joy, love.

Item 45 - Appealing Music: The DS Choir and NS Praise team are excellent. Seek additional instruments to accompany hymns or anthems. Use the congregation's youth instrumental musicians

at call to worship or during offering. At DS increase number of well-known hymns and hymns which are tuneful and within the voice range of majority. At NS, including favorite traditional hymns with contemporary hymns is well-received. Look into having All Sunday School choirs at the DS like the Joy and Hosanna choirs at the NS.

Item 46- Additional worship services to serve those who prefer different times and styles of music: We have different styles of music available. Greeters could let visitors know about the different styles available when appropriate. Vision for the DS 9:15 service is unclear, and Pastor Mary is working on breathing new life into that service.

Item 47- Start a new site. Done!

Additional Thoughts - Ideas for Time control of worship: When there is a baptism replace the children's sermon with an invitation for children to come up near the font to watch. Work to shorten all children's sermons. Is there a short, opening worship service at our Sunday Schools?

North Site: (Nancy)

Worship subgroup -We are still looking for people to serve.

Advent Wreath Stand - Jeff Picken is looking into making, instead of purchasing, a stand so it is in a style that would be in harmony with the architecture and altar. Let Nancy know if we know of any ironsmiths! Milly suggested she show any plans to the Arts and Environment committee for their input and suggestions.

Meeting was adjourned, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting: March 10, 2015, Downtown Site